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the Communicator

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Red is out, Black is in

Market prepares for a day in the black

By Jessie Ruckman
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Though economists say the U.S. may be heading for a recession, Valentine's Day sales may remain unaffected by the backslide. The floral, confection, and even restaurant industries are expecting to see at least some growth over last year's Valentine's totals. According to FTD Group, Inc.'s quarterly forecast for 2008, 2008's consolidated revenue grew $4.0 million to $155.5 million, compared to consolidated revenue of $151.5 million for the same period of fiscal year 2007.

According to New York Sun columnist Dan Dorfman, "Such [economic] turmoil is undoubtedly

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▶ Black Market
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causing growing numbers of [consumers] to cut back on their big-time spending — but that apparently doesn't extend to the annual romantic Valentine's Day dinner."

The flower business seems to be blooming in the month of February. And since Valentine's Day is one of the most lucrative holidays for businesses, topped only by Christmas, the marketing sector is looking forward to a day basking in the fiscal 'black'.

So how much do Americans spend on average? It is estimated that consumers spent $27 million on Valentine's Day paraphernalia in 2007.

In particular, Feb. 14 provides a large piece of annual floral business' income by charging more for that dozen roses.

"Businesses know that they've got you caught in a love trap, they take full advantage of the situation by extracting as much money from your pocket as they can. Rose. On any day of the year, you can go into a florist and pick up a dozen roses for $12, but on this one day, singles are helpless against the profit gouging from the florist cartels and grudgingly pay whatever the market demands, if that's what it takes to please their lovebird," said columnist Davis Freeberg.

As it turns out, inflation also applies to romance, upping the ante on just how far consumers are willing to go to impress their loved ones on what That '70's Show's character Jackie Burkhart calls "this most holy of days."

Packaged to Impress?

One marketing insider said, "Flowers, chocolate, jewelry, lingerie, and perfume merchants do quite well for Valentines day. Also personalized romantic gifts do well do for Valentine's Day. Chocolate sells well on this holiday. Seems odd, but I only [purchase] chocolate gifts before the Valentine's holiday."

Speaking of Chocolate

The Ft. Wayne chocolate industry is preparing for V-Day, and businesses like DeBrand's Fine Chocolates are also expecting a boost in business in the week leading up to Valentine's Day. According to TJ Ochoa, assistant manager of the Auburn Road store, the staff prepares for V-Day by providing extra staff, greeters and an overall game plan.

"We prepare for Valentine's Day like we do Christmas, but we generally have one consolidated week of sales as opposed to the month leading up to Christmas. The week leading up to Valentine's Day is intense because we are dealing with a bunch of guys, and the rush is so compact," said Ochoa.

Ochoa's best advice: beat the crowd. Confections, such as chocolate from DeBrand last anywhere from three days to four weeks, and the staff is trained to educate customers. Boxes of chocolate also come with a guide with details about how to care for the chocolate.

The American economy may be backpeddling faster than the stance of presidential candidates, but the Valentine's Day holiday may be doing its part in building a dam to stop the slide.

And as the old adage goes, "Love makes the world [market] go 'round."

"The American economy may be backpeddling faster than the stance of presidential candidates, but the Valentine's Day holiday may be doing its part in building a dam to stop the slide."

Campus Calendar

IPFW

Feb. 14–20, 2008

14 **ACCS Express Lane Résumé Critiques:** KT 109, noon–2 p.m. Call 16595.

Brown Bag Lunch Series on Diversity and Career Issues: "Returning Adults," WU 222, noon–1 p.m. Call 16595.

15 **Athletics Event: Men's and Women's Tennis v. Niagara, 9 a.m.; Women's Tennis v. Eastern Illinois, Men's Tennis v. UW-Green Bay, 7 p.m.** Pine Ridge Racquet Club. Call 16643.

Biology Seminar: Dr. NaTosha Gaison, Ohio State University; SB 185, noon. Call 16305.

Students with Families Event: Dinner/ workshop, WU Ballroom, 6–8 p.m. For information or reservations, call 14140.

Music Therapy Student Recital: Rhinehart Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m. Call 16714

16 **S.O.L.D. Spring Leadership Retreat:** Fox Island, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Call 16609.

Athletics Event: Women's Tennis v. Chicago State, 2 p.m.; Men's Tennis v. Saint Francis PA, 2 p.m.; Men's Tennis v. Chicago State, 7 p.m. Pine Ridge Racquet Club. Call 16643.

17 **College Goal Sunday:** NF lobby, 2 p.m. Free information and assistance for filing the FAFSA. Call 16243.

Faculty Recital: Hamilton Tescarollo, piano; Rhinehart Recital Hall, 2:30 p.m. Call 16714.

Black History Month Event: 4th Annual COMA Gospel Celebration, WU Ballroom, 5 p.m. Call 16608.

18 **Co-op Celebrates National Engineers Week:** ET 105. Daily giveaways; continues through Feb. 22. Call 16939.

Alumni /SCAH Easter Basket Collection: WU 125; continues through March 17. Items must be commercially packaged and the entire basket should be wrapped.

Athletics Event: Women's Tennis v. Detroit Mercy, 9 a.m., Pine Ridge Racquet Club. Call 16643.

Spanish Table: WU Cafetana, noon; bring a sack lunch. For information, contact 16689 or conform@ipfw.edu.

Eating Disorder Support Group: WU 234, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Call 16647.

19 **Summer Orientation Assistant Group Interviews: WU 114–116, noon–1 p.m.** Call 16609.

Ambassador Group Interviews: WU fireside lounge, 4–5 p.m. Call 16609

20 **ACCS Express Lane Résumé Critiques:** KT 109, 11 a.m.–1 p.m. Call 16595.

Degree Possible Workshop: Student Success Panel, WU G21, noon. RSVP Shawn Ellert at 16921.

Anthropology Luncheon Lecture Series: Professor Kevin Vaughn, researcher of the Nasca Lines; KT G46, noon. Call 16272.

Ambassador Group Interviews: WU fireside lounge, noon–1 p.m. Call 16609.

Black History Month Event: African-American Student Success Panel, WU G21, noon–1:15 p.m. Call 16608.

Summer Orientation Assistant Group Interviews: WU 114–116, 4–5 p.m. Call 16609.

"Network Now" Speed Networking Event: Summit Club, 110 W. Berry St., 6–9 p.m. To register, go to www.ipfw.edu/career and click on the student registration link.

Honors Program Event: Movie and discussion, Cole Commons, 7:30 p.m. Call 16924

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Student Investing 101

Save some sweet cash on VDay

By JESSIE RUCKMAN
Ruckji01@ipfw.edu

I despise Valentine's Day. There is so much pressure to be impossibly romantic, extra beautiful, thoughtful, etc.; it's 24 hours of nightmarish surrealism. This is a day – nay – an annual institution based on Saint Hallmark instead of Saint Valentine. I am mutinous and slightly hostile when it comes to Feb. 14, to say the very least.

The expectation is much like this: your Valentine meets you at the door with a dozen red roses (cliché, and at a price of about $90), a snooty dinner at Club Soda complete with a bottle of Jadot Beaujolais Village and rack of lamb, hold the mint sauce please (conservatively $150).

Then it's off to the romantically lit downtown for a carriage ride ($75 per hour), and as a nightcap there's always dessert at Debrand's Fine Chocolates, located throughout Fort Wayne (hot chocolate and dessert for two will run no less than $20).

How many college students can afford to drop over $300 for one evening with not even a guarantee of V Day coitus? Much like spitting into the wind, that's just stupid. Let's discuss some realistic options, shall we?

For those who are wings, toss a great bottle of wine into a thermos, grab some paper cups and snuggle on a park bench, laughing the evening away. Even some great wines are reasonable in cost, and the Beaujolais Village runs about $15 at most stores.

Grab some Chinese takeout and rent a couple of great classic horror movies. Light a few candles and – bam! – instantly excellent V Day that is well within the budget.

Take a bubble bath with your loved one – again, add some candles and wine to the equation.

Get out your old board games, invite a couple of friends over and order a pizza. Split the cost and enjoy a little friendship with a dash of romance.

Think about this before you drop a boatload of cash on just one evening of pomp & circumstance: someone who really loves you knows what makes you tick.

And while everyone likes to be spoiled, use your brain instead of plastic and so something really romantic – spend quality time with someone, and not just quality cash.

Politics & dating just don't mix

By Anonymous

Like a rash on your inner thigh, Valentine's Day has returned. If you're single, the entire month of February is just one long reminder of how alone you are. Still, there is one good thing about being single on Valentine's Day: no matter how lonely I get, at least I'm not with Heather."

I admit, I may be partly to blame for what happened. Political debates have no place on a date. Still, I hope I never see her again.

A couple weeks before the semester began, a friend of mine mentioned that one of his coworkers was a beautiful girl in need of a guy. Her name was Heather, and we had the same major.

"What does she look like?" I asked. "If you say 'great personality,' the deal's off." He assured me that Heather looked like a young, if slightly more curvaceous, Winona Ryder. This was great news. My last blind date had looked like Danny DeVito in capris. So, Operation Big Date was all systems go.

As I strolled into the resturant, I looked for the black dress she had promised to wear that night. As promised, she looked just like Winona Ryder. In Beetlejuice.

The date started well enough. She had a great laugh, and she seemed pretty smart. But when I brought up politics, everything went downhill.

She said, "I'm voting for Hillary. I don't really care about her policies, I just want a girl president."

I remarked that Lindsay Lohan was also a girl, but she would probably make a poor Commander-in-Cheif. Also, if this was how women were going to use their right to vote, perhaps they shouldn't have it. How did Heather react to all this?

She stabbed me.

Earlier, I had handed Heather a pencil so she could write down my email address. As we debated the merits of another Clinton administration, she gestured vigorously and, the next thing I knew, I had the sharpest pencil in the world imbedded in the back of my hand.

I screamed, grabbed my coat and phone, and left her with the check. (Hey, you stab me, you have to pay. It's only fair.) Moments later, I was in the ER, having my hand cut open. A piece of wood had broken off and the doc cut my hand open to get it out, leaving me with five stitches.

VDay will be a bit less depressing this year. No matter how lonely I get, being alone is better than being with a psycho.

It's a (third) party!

After a century and a half of Democrats and Republicans, the Libertarian Party has new solutions

By DOUGLAS SCHMIDT
schmdn01@ipfw.edu

One of the strangest things about the U.S. is the American way of looking at choices. The average American demands 31 flavors of ice cream and 120 channels on the television, and yet is content with just two political parties. However, for those who want something more, there are other options.

Although the U.S. has seen 140 years of Democrats and Republicans in Washington, there are dozens of alternative parties. Judging by the number of votes recorded in 2004, the three biggest alternative parties are the Green Party, the Constitution Party and the largest, the Libertarian Party. According to the Libertarian Party's Web site, http://www.lp.org, over 13.4 million votes were cast for Libertarian candidates in 2006.

Regardless of which alternative party is discussed, the most common question is why do you want to throw your vote away?

Proponents of mainstream parties often suggest that any vote cast for a candidate who is unlikely to win is wasted. Douglas Horner, the chair of the Allen County Libertarian Party and a self-described "recovering Republican," disagrees.

"If you believe in smaller government... less taxes... getting the government out of people's lives, and you vote Republican, you are wasting your vote. ...I can sleep at night because I vote for who I believe in."

Similarly, Kody Tinnel, the president of the IPFW Campus Libertarians and Pro Tempore of the Student Senate, said "It would be throwing your vote away to vote for someone you don't agree with."

> "If you believe in smaller government... less taxes... getting the government out of people's lives, and you vote Republican, you are wasting your vote. "

One problem alternative parties constantly face is lack of attention from the media. Horner said, "Everyone in the media is predominately Democrat or Republican, so that's who they focus on." Alternative parties struggle to operate in a system where the major parties control ballot access. Horner said, "In the state of Indiana, you see where the Libertarians keep qualifying to do something, and then they [the major parties] move the bar."

Due to the Party's focus on the free market and individual responsibility, many libertarian solutions to problems do not actually involve the government at all. During the last city council debate, Horner was asked what he would do to improve downtown Fort Wayne. He said, "[I would do] absolutely nothing. This presumes a responsibility that government does not have. ...That's private sector business."

Horner said that the Libertarian Party also has a very different approach to social problems like retirement planning.

"You know what Social Security really says? You're too damn dumb to save money on your own, so we're going to force you to do it. ...Turn to the churches, turn to the neighborhoods; those are people who can really respond to real problems and fix them."

In December, the Libertarian Party passed a resolution officially requesting Rep. Ron Paul to run for president as a Libertarian if he does not receive the Republican Party nomination. However, Paul has repeatedly denied that he will run with an alternative party. The Libertarian Party will officially choose its candidate during its national convention in May.

The next meeting of the Allen County Libertarian Party is Feb 18, 6:30-7:30 pm at Ivy Tech, room 2310. The IPFW Campus Libertarians meet every Tuesday at seven pm in the second floor lounge in the Walb Student Union. The club is devoted to libertarian philosophy and is not associated with the Libertarian Party.

Time to pay the piper?

New legislation may force college students to subsidize the music industry

By DOUGALAS SCHMIDT
schmdn01@ipfw.edu

The House recently passed the College Opportunity and Affordability Act of 2007, which is designed to reduce the cost of textbooksand to make it easier to apply for financial aid. However, a portion of the bill, if not removed by the Senate, would effectively force college students to subsidize the music industry.

Section 494, "Campus-based digital theft prevention," would require colleges to offer "alternatives to illegal downloading or peer-to-peer distribution of intellectual property as well as a plan to explore technology-based deterrents to prevent such illegal activity." The "legal alternatives" would likely be paid services like Napster, Rhapsody and iTunes.

According to the nonprofit association Educause, the bill could result in the educational system being forced to provide a $400 million subsidy to the music industry every year. College students could find music added to their tuition bills, whether they want it or not.

The "technology-based deterrents" mentioned in the bill refer to network filters designed to prevent file sharing. Like the legal music services, the filters would also have to be paid for by someone, most likely the students.

However, any sort of file sharing prevention plan is unlikely to completely eliminate illegal copying. Even a school shut down its network entirely, students could still resort to "sneakernets," simply exchanging mp3-filled CDs, DVDs or flash drives by hand. As portable media becomes ever cheaper, such sneakernets will become easier and more difficult to stop. Already, 160 gigabyte portable hard drives can be had for less than $100.

At this point, the language of the bill does not make it clear what penalty schools would suffer for not developing a "digital theft prevention" plan. Opponents of the legislation, such as Educarse and the Association of American Universities, are concerned that schools may risk losing federal funding.

According to technology news site http://arstechnica.com, Rep. Steve Cohen (D-Tenn) introduced an amendment that would have prevented schools from losing their funding, but the amendment was later pulled from the floor.

The importance of Iraq

The candidates each have very different plans for the war

By EDWARD NELSON
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The United States has been firmly entrenched in Iraq for nearly five years, and as voters grow weary of the ongoing struggle and primary season winds down, the clear frontrunners are Republican Sen. John McCain and Democrats Sen. Hillary Clinton and Sen. Barack Obama. They each have different strategies on how to deal with the war in Iraq.

McCain's Web site reveals that he not only wants to stay in Iraq, he also wants to increase the troop levels. As one of the most outspoken advocates of Bush's recent troop surge, McCain believes that more troops are necessary to complete America's objectives in Iraq, namely securing democracy and winning the war on terror.

He believes that pulling out would lead to civil war and Iraq becoming a safe haven for terrorist groups like al-Qaeda, both threats to America's security. McCain has said he would also increase the intensity of training Iraqi forces, keep the same, knowledgeable generals in place, set up policies of diplomacy, and keep the same benchmarks that President Bush set for Iraq to achieve in order to help the U.S. more easily withdraw.

The Democrats have a drastically different view, insisting that troops be withdrawn as soon as possible. Clinton has outlined on her Web site a three-step plan that would attempt to stabilize Iraq while bringing troops home and instituting plans for diplomacy with the country's neighboring nations.

Despite the success it has had, she never supported the troop surge that President Bush authorized and believes that troops should be pulled out of Iraq immediately. She would redirect the funding to Iraq to help bring stability to the nation by putting more aid into the hands of Iraqi citizens and to stop giving as much directly to the government.

Obama's Web site boasts that he never supported the war. If elected, one of the first things on his agenda would be to start removing troops from Iraq. Under his administration, the only troops remaining in the region would be to protect embassies and diplomats.

> "The question of staying in or getting out of Iraq is a complicated one and either choice could yield very negative consequences."

He has questioned the effects of the surge and claims that no progress has been made among Iraqi leaders trying to resolve internal conflicts.

Obama believes that Iraqi leaders will take real control of their country only when the United States makes it clear that it will not remain in their country. According to his Web site, Obama would put forth the most extensive diplomatic plan in recent American history in order to prevent war in the area and stabilize Iraq as a nation.

The question of staying in or getting out of Iraq is a complicated one and either choice could yield very negative consequences. CNN reports that leaving an unsecured Iraq could lead to a war involving most of the Middle East. It could also provide a safe haven for al Qaeda, a great setback in the war on terror.

Essentially, leaving Iraq too quickly could potentially create a much larger conflict. General David Petraeus, current commander of U.S. troops in Iraq, claimed in a recent interview with NPR that it would be unreasonable to bring all the troops out of Iraq before the U.S. completes its objectives; according to Petraeus, then and only then would Iraq be strong enough to stand on its own two feet.

As the presidential election draws nearer, it is important to thoroughly consider which candidate would be the best fit as America's next Commander-in-Chief. Each candidate has contrasting plans for the War in Iraq.

McCain believes a certain level of security must be achieved throughout Iraq before the U.S. pulls out. Obama's policies call for immediate troop removal and a heavy reliance on diplomacy. Clinton has taken a middle ground with a combination of the two.

The best solution to resolve the war may not be clear, but one thing is for sure: Americans will be getting an answer this November.

Time in Iraq

The Iraq war has cost roughly $500 billion or $100 billion a year. There are 31,556,926 seconds in a year. One second in Iraq costs U.S. taxpayers $3,168.87. What else could you buy for the cost of a few moments in Iraq?

Big Mac = 0.001 seconds
Superbad DVD = 0.005 seconds
16 gigabyte iPod Touch = 0.11 seconds
An undergrad class at IPFW (Indiana residents) = 0.19 seconds
Apple MacBook Pro (basic) = 0.63 seconds
Roughly 10,000 packages of Ramen noodles = 1 second
Apple MacBook Pro (top of the line, all the options) = 2.31 seconds
2008 Toyota Prius = 6.65 seconds
2008 Lexus LS 460 (Luxury Package) = 22.7 seconds
Average home in U.S. = 1.2 minutes
Your own, private concert by Paul McCartney = 5.25 minutes

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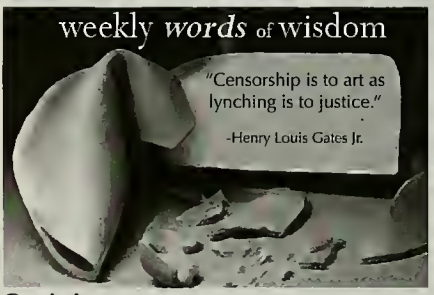
Top 10 tips for a romantic VD

10. If you waited until now, the flower shops are empty, but you can still get roses at pharmacies, gas stations, and cemeteries.
9. When you pick up your date, there's no reason to walk all the way to the door. Just honk until she comes outside. Keep honking until she gets in the car, puts on her seatbelt, and kisses you hello.
8. Good gift: chocolate. Better gift: jewelry. Best gift: chocolate jewelry.
7. Mix CDs are always a nice touch... then again, so is ecstasy...then again, what touch isn't nice...ladies?
6. Ladies love a "take charge" kind of guy, so if you go out to dinner, feel free to order for her. "I'll have a salad and a Diet Sprite, and the lady will have three Big Macs, six large fries, and eight hot apple pies. And can you pour the burger grease into a Coke? She likes that."
5. If you have kids and need time alone for romance, try making milkshakes with vanilla ice cream and Nyquil.
4. Feeding each other can be romantic, but only if you pick the right foods. Strawberries are a great choice. BBQ ribs, not so much.
3. If you're in a moment of passion and forget your date's name, don't worry! Most girls are named "Becky."
2. Having a chauffeur will allow you to have more time in the back-seat. Letting your mom drive might be awkward at first...but what isn't?
1. If your date doesn't end well, you can always go home, pop in Star Wars, pull out your light saber, and Han Solo.

weekly *words* of wisdom



Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.

7	2					6		8
		1	7			9		5
4	9	5				2	1	
			5		2		7	
				4				
	5		1		6			
	7	8				5	6	4
6		2			1	7		
5		9					2	3

Answers to last week's Sudoku

9	6	8	7	1	2	5	3	4
3	2	5	6	9	4	8	7	1
1	4	7	5	8	3	2	6	9
4	8	1	3	6	8	7	2	5
8	8	2	1	7	6	4	9	3
7	5	3	2	4	8	1	8	6
8	1	4	9	3	7	6	5	2
5	3	6	8	2	1	9	4	7
2	7	9	4	5	8	3	1	8

Horoscopes

by Doug Schmidt

Aries Mar 21- Apr 19
Sometimes it's hard to tell the difference between a stroke of inspiration and just a stroke.

Taurus Apr 20- May 20
The good thing about being poor is that you never have to wonder if people just like you for your money. Nobody likes the poor.

Gemini May 21- June 20
Are you paranoid, or is that just what they want you to think?

Cancer June 21- July 22
If you still need a date for Valentine's Day, try this pickup line: "I'm from the future. Come with me if you want to live."

Leo July 23- Aug 22
You will be arrested for a horrible crime, but later released when a typo in the paperwork lists your crime as "man laughter."

Virgo Aug 23- Sep 22
You will sell your soul to the devil in exchange for x-ray vision, but later regret it when all you can see is bones.

Libra Sep 23- Oct 22
I hate to break it to you, but that's not a neck massager.

Scorpio Oct 23- Nov 21
If you want to do well in anatomy class, you have to stop giggling every time someone says "coccyx."

Sagittarius Nov22- Dec 21
The stars say that, after you graduate, your life will become one long string of failures. But not to worry! No one will notice.

Capricorn Dec 22- Jan19
You will spend hours filling a cheat sheet with mathematical formulas, quadratic equations and complex, geometric diagrams. Unfortunately, you will still fail French.

Aquarius Jan 20- Feb 18
You will become rich selling a new line of snack cakes, only to lose it all when people discover that they contain insecticides, mercury, and twelve grams of saturated fat.

Pisces Feb 19- Mar 20
You'll be embarrassed tonight when your tongue ring gets caught in your date's eyebrow ring.

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A Very Happy Un-Valentine's Day To You

By ANDREW STACKHOUSE
lcyrain@hotmail.com

Valentine's Day dawns upon a single person's morning with the weight of a metaphorical elephant. Everywhere they go, hearts, cupids and other annoyingly romantic symbols accost the senses, reminding them of their own singularity. However, instead of being depressed that evening, try something new and invite some single friends over to have a thoroughly un-romantic movie party. Here are some movies that won't sicken your heart:

The Bourne Ultimatum – The third Bourne movie features an even more intricate storyline and thrilling chase scenes. As with the other Bourne films, this movie is more than just an adrenaline-filled roller coaster ride. Expect moral and political questions to surface throughout the movie as Bourne learns about his past and eludes the government.

The Invasion – This remake of Invasion of the Body Snatchers is an intense psychological thriller with an intriguing social commentary. The entire movie keeps you on the edge of your seat with it's creepy feel. The movie also features an amaazing cast that includes Nicole Kidman, Daniel Craig, and Jeremy Northam.

Ocean's Thirteen – The stakes are a lot higher in this movie as well, as one of the original eleven thieves has been double-crossed by a vicious casino owner. Watch as the other ten, along with one of their old nemeses, joins their ranks and make the greatest heist of all.

Michael Clayton – "The truth can be adjusted" or so the tagline for the movie reads. The movie follows the intensive path of a lawyer who usually "fixes" dirty cases for his corporate clients. When one of his fellow lawyers is killed he unearths a dark web of deceit that puts his own life (and morals) in danger.

Death Proof – This slasher flick of sorts is Quentin Tarantino's latest directorial achievement. The movie is talkie and a bit long at times, but the last thirty minutes are pure adrenaline rush.

The Brave One – Jodie Foster plays a wife who takes the law into her own hands after she watches her fiancé get murdered by thugs. This revenge flick centers on Miss Foster's performance and truly depicts the sense of angry solitude the main character feels.

3:10 to Yuma – This western remake starring Russell Crowe and Christian Bale follows a smalltime rancher who gets paid to escort a captured outlaw to a train station. The action is intense in this movie, but the storyline is also deep, insightful and thoroughly unromantic.

Pan's Labyrinth – Director Guillermo del Toro's dark fantasy about a girl who learns about her mythical past is both mesmerizing and disturbing. The visuals are awesome and the plotline is intense. This isn't your average fairytale... and there are no princes to be found.

▶Philharmonic
From Page 6

The first movement opened with a longing melody. Very much like Smetana's Ma Vlast, this movement wandered through the strings, new waves of sound surging forth as the melody changed then ended with tragic, minor chords. The second movement incorporated string pizzicato in a somber tune. A fugue-like passage stomped through the movement, only to melt into dark sweeping tones and a high note at the close.

The third movement was snappy, blasting the first notes wide open. Beginning like a march, the main musical thought suddenly switched moods back to the seagoing roll of the first movement, gaining the flavor of the cinema music behind the Pirates of the Caribbean. The fourth movement included a brass and woodwind fanfare, a flute solo and noisy syncopations.

The entire work exuded a romantic flair: sweeping from brooding themes to triumphant jaunts; it was a lovely way to end the concert. Audience response was warm for this terrific display of musicianship. Conductor Edvard Tchivzhel received two bows.

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This Week In HOLLYWEIRD

By SARAH GEIGER
geigse01@ipfw.edu

Kirsten Dunst is the newest celeb to enter rehab, she also was admitted to the same rehab facility as La Lohan and Eva Mendes.

Amy Winehouse won a total of 6 Grammys and even performed via satellite! She was unable to attend the actual ceremony due to her troubles obtaining a U.S. Visa and also due to the fact that she is in rehab!

1980s star, Corey Haim, recently took out a full page in Variety magazine to announce to the world he is ready to come back and take the world by storm!

The Writers strike is over!

Cher has announced that she is coming out of retirement to perform in Vegas in the near future.

Ryan Reynolds and Scarlett Johannson are supposedly engaged. Scarlett and Mommy were spotted shopping for wedding dresses.

Roy Scheider, best known in his role as the police chief in Jaws, has passed away. He had been battling blood cancer for the last three years.

Toxicology reports revealed that Heath Ledger died from an accidental overdose on prescription medications. It was reported he had nearly 6 different types of prescribed sleep aids and anti-anxiety medications.

Britney Spears attempted to hire a new lawyer after leaving UCLA's Psych Ward 12 days earlier than ordered. Unfortunately, she was denied such privileges.

Dolly Parton was expected to begin her world tour later this month, but had to postpone it due to a back injury.

"Gypsy Fires" Lights Up the Philharmonic

By LOUISA DANIELSON
danila02@pfw.edu

Saturday, February 2 at 8 pm – the Fort Wayne Philharmonic performed "Gypsy Fire" with Hungarian soloist Barnabas Kelemen. The concert included works by Bela Bartok and Johannes Brahms.

Kelemen opened the concert with the technically difficult Bartok Concerto No. 2 for violin. Composed of three movements, this work showcased Kelemen's fantasticability with glissandos, trills and rapid bowing. The work was originally performed in 1939; its composer (also a Hungarian) had a fascination with the mathematical aspects of music, preferring to compose structurally accurate pieces rather than melodic. This was especially evident when the soloist did a duet with the timpani in the second movement, and when the orchestra spiraled ever higher in mysterious trills, like electronic toy space blasters.

Kelemen received tremendous applause and a standing ovation for his rendition of the concerto. Following three bows, he left the stage in a swirl of black frock coat and silver cummerbund and vanished behind the scrim.

The next piece of the evening was Brahms' Symphony no. 4 in E minor op. 98. This piece was an example of pure music, composed for the benefit of both the listener and the performer. The orchestra did a wonderful job with smooth transitions, creating an idyllic panorama of sound on which to paint the thoughts of the listeners.

A History of Valentine's Day

February 14 is a day that has been taken over by Valentine's Day cards, chocolate, flowers, and stuffed animals. The commercialism of Valentine's day has perhaps obscured the meaning and history of the holiday, so here are a few anecdotes to commemorate exactly what this holiday is all about.

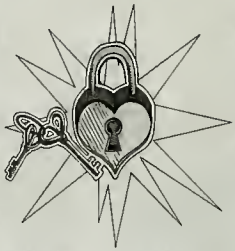
By MELISSA AKASON
Akasma01@ipfw.edu

Valentine's Day is commonly believed to have originated from one man, Saint Valentine, who was a Roman priest during the third century.

Claudius II, who is also known as "Claudius the Cruel", was the Emperor at that time, and he believed that the best army was formed from single soldiers, instead of men with a wife and children. With that thought he banned all single men at that time ftom getting married.

Saint Valentine was outraged with this ruling and decided that he was not going to obey this law. He and another priest secretly continued to marry couples defying the laws of man while doing what he believed to be God's will.

When Claudius II found out he placed Saint Valentine in jail, and condemned him to be beaten with clubs. Then following the beating he was to have his head cut off, which would be his death sentence.

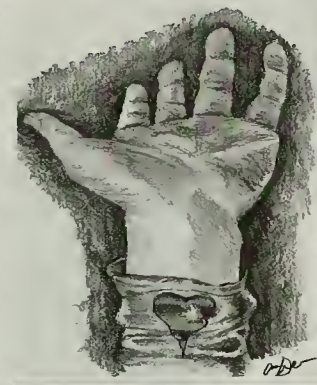


In Wales, wooden 'love spoons' were carved and given as gifts on Valentine's Day. The spoon would commonly be decorated with a heart, a key, and a keyhole, which meant 'You unlock my heart.'

While in jail, Saint Valentine became friends with the jailer's daughter. She would visit with him frequently. The Romans were so outraged with the condemnation that they would stand outside and call to Saint Valentine.

Unfortunately, that did not persuade Emperor Claudius II to release Saint Valentine.

Tragically on Feb. 14, 269 A.D., Saint Valentine was taken out of the jail to receive his beating and the removal of his head. Before they took him away he wrote a letter to the jailer's daughter expressing his gratitude for her kindness, signing it "Love from your Valentine".



During the middle ages, young men and women would pick the name of their Valentine from a bowl, and then they would wear that name on their sleeve for a week. That is where the phrase "wearing your heart on your sleeve" came from.

In some countries, young men would give their love interests clothing as a gift. If the young woman kept the clothing that meant she would marry him.

Information compiled from http://www.history.com and http://www.pictureframes.co.uk/pages/saint_valentine.htm

IPFW

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Lights, camera, action

Production photos by IPFW student at The Grind Coffeehouse

IPFW student Lana Mabbitt participated in ***Darkness Aftermath,*** a local film project shot last summer, shooting still frames during and after the film's production. The above shot is one of many compositions that hang on the walls of The Grind Coffeehouse, located on the corner of Maplecrest and Stellhorn Roads, next to Scotts Foods. The exhibit is the beginning of many opportunities for IPFW students to hang artwork in the coffee shop. Next month, members of the organization, Art Student League will be featuring work.

Blackboard may go mobile in the future

By MARC MINER
U-WIRE

A phone vibrates. Two text messages emanate from a puny screen.

A friend has sent plans about the upcoming weekend. A professor has sent a reminder about an assignment due Monday.

With Blackboard Inc.'s acquisition of mobile messaging group NTI, this scenario could become a reality.

Blackboard bought NTI for a reported $162 million with aims of increasing its users and its capabilities in mass communications.

"We also see tremendous potential for exciting applications of the technology," Peter Segall, the president North America Higher Education and Operations, Blackboard, wrote in an e-mail.

In the future, Segall said, students may be able to choose how to receive grades or assignments via text message, e-mail or even a phone call.

Blackboard will explore integration possibilities for NTI group's Connect-ED with Blackboard Academic Suite.

Blackboard Academic Suite offers online course management for students' grades and assignments in addition to offering communication options between faculty members and students.

The service Connect-ED, under NTI, powers enrollment communications, financial aid notices, first-year student outreach and incident awareness to text-receiving devices such as cell phones.

"Time-sensitive mass notifications systems are a top priority for academic institutions today," Segall said.

Alert notification systems have been a growing concern since the Virginia Tech shooting.

scoreboard

Mastodon scores for 02/05-02/10

Players of the Week

>C.J. Macias
Had 32 total kills in a 1-1 weekend. Included in that was a 20 kill outing in a big match with Saint Francis (PA) on Friday.

>Ashley Recht
Freshman tennis star wins 3-of-4 matches and is named first ever Summit League Female Athlete of the Month.

Women's Basketball
February 9 - 71-88 loss to Oral Roberts
> Johnna Lewis-Carlisle (20 points)
> Natalie Roberts (12 points)

Men's Basketball
February 7 - 65-44 win over Centenary
February 9 - 56-85 loss to Oral Roberts

Men's Tennis
February 5 - 4-3 win over Dayton

Women's Tennis
February 8 - 3-4 loss to UW-Milwaukee
February 8 - 6-1 win over UW-Green Bay
February 9 - 1-6 loss to Akron
February 10 - 1-6 loss to Dayton

Women's Tennis
February 8-9 - 14th Place at Southern Illinois

Men's Volleyball
February 9 - 3-2 win over St. Francis (PA)
February 10 - 0-3 loss to Penn State

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The Communicator welcomes responses. Letters to the Editor must be signed, dated and accompanied by a current address, telephone number and class standing/major or title if applicable. Letters not meeting these requirements will not be considered for publication.

All submissions made via e-mail will be verified by telephone or in person. Addresses and telephone numbers will not be published.

Submissions must be typed, and no more than 300 words.

The editorial board of The Communicator reserves the right to edit all submissions for length, grammar, style, and clarity. Letters deemed potentially libelous by the editorial board will not be published under any circumstances.

Photo courtesy of Texas Tech Athletics

Exit of Bob Knight a major loss to all of college sports

In All Directions

By DAN VANCE
dan.vance@franchisepublications.net

There have been a lot of major losses in the sports world as of late. There have been even more big stories.

But nothing that the grand steroid drama could produce would be lead in my mind now that college basketball is without Bob Knight.

I love basketball. I love basketball in the state of Indiana. But, I have never been a fan of Indiana University basketball. Likewise, I cannot really say that I have ever been real fond of Bob Knight at any point in my life.

But even as critical as I can be, I must say that the face of college sports (no just basketball) would not be the same without Knight. He has become one of a handful of always familiar faces on the scene of the NCAA's most profitable sport. Like Adolf Rupp, John Wooden and Dean Smith before him, Bob Knight has left his chosen profession a little less full because his bigtime personality and spirit will no longer be on the sidelines.

He has also contributed to other big names. If there was no Bob Knight, there would be no Mike Krzyzewski and possibly no Duke dynasty. And as a longtime Blue Devil fanatic, I cannot imagine life without Coach K.

And without Bob Knight, today would not be "Pat Knight Day" in Lubbock, Texas. And WHAT would life be like without that?

First, note the sarcasm in the previous paragraph. And now, let's move on.

Through 902 wins, Knight has done some tremendous things. None more so than coaching the last undefeated college basketball team to a national title in 1976.

When he was fired from Indiana University in 2000 after a questionable (for lack of a better, non-profain word) decision by then-AD Miles Brand, the Knight legacy could have folded. Instead, it got a new life in the form of the Texas Tech Red Raiders.

Knight was quoted in the press conference to announce his Texas Tech hiring as saying "this is by far the most comfortable red sweater I have worn in years." It was also the most comfortable the often enraged, sometimes downright cranky, coach had looked in years.

It was sad to see that comfort starting to slip away this season and last. You could tell that Knight's end was coming.

But that does not make it any easier. Bobby Knight has been college basketball for a long time. And sports history should recognize that because February 4, 2008 will go down as the day that sports changed forever.

Up and down week for women's tennis

The women's tennis team posted a very up and down week, coming out with only one win in for attempts.

On Friday, the ladies split their afternoon, falling to Wisconsin-Milwaukee, but toppling Wisconsin-Green Bay, both of the Horizon League.

The weekend also saw them post losses to Akron and Dayton.

But showing a good ray of light was Ashley Recht, who was named the Summit League Female Athlete of the Month.

Recht garners Women's Athlete of the Month accolades after going undefeated during the month of January. The freshman posted a 3-0 record at No. 1 singles, taking all of her matches in straight sets. She and partner Sachi Janek also went 3-0 at No. 2 doubles during the month.

In a loss to Evansville, Recht was the only IPFW player to record a singles victory. Against Cleveland State, she was one of two Mastodons to post singles wins. The Summit League Athlete of the Week for Jan. 29, Recht is a perfect 7-0 on the year.

Recht is the first IPFW student-athlete to be given this award.

In their only win of the week, Recht continued her dominance at No. 1 singles with a 6-1, 6-3 win over Emily Lawent.

Senior Ashley Coulson rolled to her third straight win at No. 2 singles, 6-0, 6-4 against Kelly Stadum.

Senior Hanna Hager gutted out a tough three-setter with Calle Conda, 6-2, 4-6, 10-8.

Unlike earlier in the day against UW-Milwaukee, IPFW started off the match winning the doubles point. The Mastodons won all three doubles matches.

Recht did drop one match over the weekend to fall to 7-1 on the year. IPFW is now 3-5 and will return to action this Friday against Niagara and Eastern Illinois at home.

Mastodons get swept away after big win

Courtesy of IPFW ATHLETICS

The Penn State Nittany Lions lived up to their ranking and reputation tonight. No. 2 PSU easily swept No. 10 IPFW, 3-0 at Alumni Hall.

Penn State dispatched the Mastodons in quick fashion, 30-20, 30-22, and 30-20.

The win was the Nittany Lions' 12th straight to begin the season (12-0).

PSU was led by the trio of Matt Anderson, Ryan Sweitzer, and Max Holt with 16, 15, and 10 kills, respectively.

Penn State dominated the net, outblocking IPFW 9.0 to 3.0.

IPFW managed just one player in double-digit kills. Senior outside hitter C.J. Macias put down 12 balls.

The loss breaks a five-game winning streak for the Mastodons.

The Saint Francis Red Flash already have one victory over a ranked opponent on their resume this season, knocking off No. 12 George Mason. The Red Flash nearly got their second tonight in Loretto, Pennsylvania, but IPFW had enough at the finish to pull out the match, 3-2.

The Mastodons won by the scores of 30-20, 30-21, 27-30, 25-30, and 15-11.

IPFW cruised in the first two sets, hitting .562 and .375, respectively. The Red Flash didn't put up much of a struggle in those sets, hitting .074 and .103.

Saint Francis came out firing in the third set as sophomore outside hitter Nick Rivett put down a pair of kills to open up a, 7-3 lead.

IPFW battled back to tie the game a number of times, including 26-all off of a pair of kills from Macias. Saint Francis would put game three on ice with kills from sophomores Jordan Varee and Patrick McManaman.

Game four again was a close affair, but after a tie at 23-all, the Red Flash went on a 7-3 run, finishing it out on another Rivett kill. IPFW regrouped in game five, taking a 5-2 lead on a kill by senior middle Josh Stewart.

Varee got Saint Francis to within two at 11-9, but the 'Dons could see the finish line, and ended the 2:10 match on the final of Macias' match-high 20 kills.

Senior opposite Jason Yhost had 14 kills. Stewart added 10 and-nine blocks in the match (3 solo/6 assists).

Courtesy Photo by AMANOA VANCE

ULLRICH: Still struggling, senior Brock Ullrich had just 13 kills in the two weekend matches.

Summit kingpins stomp IPFW in 32-point route

Courtesy of IPFW ATHLETICS

Oral Roberts University dominated all facets of play Saturday night, moving to 12-0 in Summit League action with an, 88-56 win over IPFW at the Mabee Center.

ORU senior guard/forward Moses Ehambe was too much for the Mastodons to handle, pouring in a game-high 21 points, including three triples.

The Golden Eagles exploded out of the gate with a 13-2 run, putting the 'Dons behind the eight ball with just over six minutes gone.

Oral Roberts pushed that lead to 17 on a layup by Ehambe and went to the break up, 44-24.

At the beginning of the second half, IPFW cut the lead back to 13 on a 3-pointer by freshman guard Ben Botts.

BOTTS

Unfortunately for IPFW, every time they made a run, ORU had an answer. Junior guard Robert Jarvis knocked down at triple of his own, increasing the Golden Eagles lead to, 59-35.

ORU led by as many as 35 before winning the game by 32.

J.JOHNSON

Ehambe led four Golden Eagles in double-digit scoring. Jarvis chipped in 15.

Botts was team-high for IPFW with 13. Junior guard Jakari Johnson tossed in 11 points while senior forward Jaraun Burrows added 10.

Oral Roberts (17-5, 12-0) controlled the glass, outrebounding IPFW, 43-26.

IPFW, who uses the three-pointer as a weapon, could only manage one on the evening, and the 'Dons turned the ball over 20 times.

The loss snapped IPFW's three-game winning streak and dropped them to 10-14, 7-6 in the Summit League.

Before the loss, IPFW topped Centenary 65-44 in a visit to Shreveport, Louisiana. DeWitt Scott and David Carson had 13 points each to lead the Mastodons. Carson added 10 rebounds.

Burrows had just seven points and six rebounds in the win.

IPFW returns to action next Saturday night in Rochester, Michigan taking on the Dakland Golden Grizzlies at 6:00 p.m.

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